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**Request
For
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/633,681
<i>Filing Date</i>	August 7, 2000
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Dieter THELEN
<i>Art Unit</i>	2856
<i>Examiner Name</i>	J. M. Saint Surin
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	3896

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

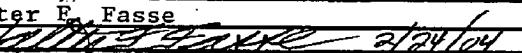
<p>1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____</p> <p>ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>RESPONSE FILED ON 12/22/2003</u></p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply</p> <p>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)</p> <p>iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)</p> <p>iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	
<p>2. Miscellaneous</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>ENCLOSED: 1 (ONE) MONTH TERM EXTENSION RUNNING FROM ADVISORY, and CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FORM (PTO-2038) ACTION</u></p>	
<p>3. Fees</p> <p>The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.</p> <p>The Director is hereby authorized to charge <u>any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0507 (ONLY FOR DEFICIENCY OR ADDITIONAL PROPER FEES)</u></p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account No. 50-0507 (ONLY FOR DEFICIENCY OR ADDITIONAL PROPER FEES)</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)</p> <p>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)</p> <p>iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>DEFICIENCY IN FEES OR OTHER FEES PROPERLY DUE</u></p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) (\$770 (RCE FEE) + \$110 (1 Month Extension Fee) (=(\$880.00))</p> <p>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Walter F. Fasse	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	36132
Signature		Date	February 24, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below. (FAX NO.: (703) 872-9306)

Name (Print/Type)	Walter F. Fasse	Date	February 24, 2004
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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